

NEWS RELEASE

VirginiaDOT.org

STA16-212

RELEASE: IMMEDIATE November 15, 2016

CONTACT: Sandy Myers 540-332-9201 (office)

540-292-2500 (cell)

Sandy.Myers@VDOT.Virginia.gov

Ken Slack 540-332-9264 (office)

540-414-5670 (cell)

Ken.Slack@VDOT.Virginia.Gov

TRAFFIC PATTERN CHANGES AT INTERSTATE 81 EXIT 310 IN FREDERICK COUNTY

STAUNTON – A series of traffic-pattern changes are scheduled for Interstate 81, Route 37 and Route 11 in Frederick County. They include new northbound I-81 on- and off-ramps at exit 310, and a new ramp between northbound Route 37 and Route 11. Two new traffic signals will be activated at these locations.

Both new signals are scheduled to go into flash mode on Wednesday, November 16. The traffic light at Route 37 and northbound I-81 is scheduled to begin full operation on the evening of Monday, November 28, when the new on- and off-ramps open to traffic. The signal at the Route 37/11 interchange is scheduled to become fully operational on Wednesday, November 30, when the new off-ramp is complete.

All work is weather permitting, as are the dates for signal activation.

These traffic pattern changes are part of the I-81 exit 310 interchange reconstruction, which will alleviate I-81 mainline traffic backups from the exit ramps. To achieve this goal, the project design uses a "spread-diamond" interchange configuration, which spreads the ramps outward and widens them with dual right- and left-turn lanes. Contractors are continuing work on the southbound I-81 ramps, and completion is scheduled for spring 2017.

General Excavation Inc. (GEI) of Warrenton, Va. was awarded a construction contract valued at nearly \$25 million. Additional information about this project including maps, diagrams and photographs can be found at http://www.virginiadot.org/projects/staunton/i-81_exit_310.asp.

The VDOT Staunton District serves Frederick, Shenandoah, Clarke, Warren, Page, Rockingham, Augusta, Highland, Rockbridge, Alleghany and Bath counties.

The Staunton District Twitter feed is at <u>@VaDOTStaunton</u>. VDOT can be followed on <u>Facebook</u>, <u>Flickr</u>, <u>Twitter</u> and <u>YouTube</u>. <u>RSS</u> feeds are also available for statewide information. The VDOT Web page is located at <u>www.VirginiaDOT.org</u>.

(END)